


May 20, 1996

MEMORANDUM

TO: Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded, Hospital, Nursing Home, and Community Residential Care Facility Administrators

FROM: Alan Samuels, Director
Division of Health Licensing 

SUBJECT: Conditions that will allow a provider-wide partial exception to the requirements of Regulation 61-13, Standards for Licensing Habilitation Centers for the Mentally Retarded or Persons with Related Conditions, Section C.(2)(a); Regulation 61-16, Standards for Licensing Hospitals and Institutional General Infirmaries, Section 404.1; Regulation 61-17, Standards for Licensing Nursing Homes, Section C.(2)(a); and Regulation 61-84, Standards for Licensing Community Residential Care Facilities, Section 302.

Standards outlined in Regulation 61-13, Section C.(2)(a); Regulation 61-16, Section 404.1; Regulation 61-17, Section C.(2)(a); and Regulation 61-84, Section 302., require that facility policies and procedures be reviewed at least annually. During inspections we have routinely checked for documentation which showed that this was done.

In the interest of establishing reasonable standards which do not compromise the health and welfare of residents/patients living in or receiving care in intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded, hospitals, nursing homes, and community residential care facilities, we have determined that an alternative standard will be allowed.

All intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded, hospitals, nursing homes, and community residential care facilities, must meet either the standards outlined in their respective licensing standard, **OR**, as an alternative:

Procedures shall be revised as required in order to reflect actual facility practice. Additionally, facilities shall establish a time frame for overall review of all procedures. This time frame shall be documented in facility procedure and overall reviews shall be documented.

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Facility staff shall work together with the appropriate governing body, management, medical staff, and clinical and managerial leaders in developing, reviewing, and revising procedures as needed. This exception does not change any other standards not specifically addressed in this letter.

The standards in Regulation 61-13, Section C.(2)(a); Regulation 61-16, Section 404.1; Regulation 61-17, Section C.(2)(a); and Regulation 61-84, Section 302., will be enforced during inspections, as required either by the regulation or the provider-wide exception. This exception applies to any intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded, hospital, nursing home, or community residential care facility licensed by the Department. It relates solely to South Carolina licensing standards. Any adverse condition(s) that may be related to this exception may result in revocation of the exception by the Department.

If there are any questions, you may call (803) 737-7202.

AS:DG:dg

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